

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims in Group I, namely 1-23 and withdraws claims 24-26.

Applicants respectfully submit that the requirement for restriction/unity of invention is improper because claims 24-26 depend from claim 1 and therefore do not claim a separate invention. In other words, it is not possible to carry out the methods recited in claims 24-26 without using the electrochemical element according to claim 1.

Nonetheless, in order to expedite prosecution of the case, Applicant makes the present election without traverse and with the expectation that the withdrawn claims will be restored upon allowance of a generic claim.

With respect to the election of species:

- I) Applicants elect the species wherein the electrochemical element is a rechargeable battery; all claims read on this species;
- II) Applicants elect the species wherein the electrolyte comprising a cation has a ring structure as set out in claim 6; claims 1-6 and 8-23 read on this species;
- III) Applicants elect the species wherein the anion comprises ClO_4^- ; all claims read on this species;
- IV) Applicants elect the species wherein the electrolyte comprises an alkali salt; claims 1-11 and 13-23 read on this species;
- V) Applicants elect the species wherein the cathode material comprises LiCrTiO_4 ; claims 1-13, 15, and 18-23 read on this species;
- VI) Applicants elect the species wherein the anode material comprises lithium metal; claims 1-18 and 22-23 read on this species; and
- VII) Applicants elect the species wherein the cathode or the anode does not comprise a binder; claims 1-21 read on this species.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the present submission wholly responds to the office action. If it would be considered helpful in resolving any issues in the case, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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